

Message Text

SECRET

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63

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00

INRE-00 /026 W

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P 232000 Z MAR 73

FM USDEL SALT TWO II

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1886

S E C R E T USDEL SALT TWO II 0113

EXDIS/ SALT

DOD HANDLE AS SPECAT FOR SECDEF

E. O. 11652: XGDSI

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: SALT: HIGHLIGHTS OF MARCH 23 POST- MEETING DISCUSSIONS

REF: USDEL SALT TWO II 0111

1. SUMMARY: THERE FOLLOWS A DETAILED ACCOUNT OF THE MARCH 23 POST MEETING DISCUSSIONS. END SUMMARY.

2. REDUCTIONS: SHCHUKIN (TO NITZE, A-154)

SAID THAT WE SHOULD FIRST ARRIVE AT AN INITIAL CEILING ON STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMAMENTS WHICH WOULD PROVIDE " EQUAL SECURITY" OR AS US CALLS IT, " ESSENTIAL EQUIVALENCE". TO ARRIVE AT THIS INITIAL CEILING MIGHT REQUIRE CERTAIN NON- SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTIONS OR PERMIT CERTAIN NON SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES BY ONE SIDE OR THE OTHER. AS PART OF AN AGREEMENT ON SUCH AN INITIAL CEILING WE MIGHT CONCURRENTLY AGREE ON A PROGRAM FOR SUBSEQUENT REDUCTIONS OVER TIME.

2. REGARDING SEMENOV' S STATEMENT ON REDUCTIONS, AUSLAND ASKED CHULITSKIY (A-156) IF HE UNDERSTOOD CORRECTLY THAT THE SOVIETS COULD FORESEE SOME REDUCTION IN THE AGREEMENT WE ARE NOW DISCUSSING AND THEN ENVISAGED A POSSIBLE SALT III TO DISCUSS REDUCTIONS. CHULITSKIY LOOKED AT THE SEMENOV STATEMENT AND THEN SAID HE THOUGHT THIS A REASONABLE INTERPRETATION.

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3. TIMING: IN APPARENT HINT AT SOVIET IMPATIENCE, GEN, USTINOV (TO ROWNY, A-156) SAID THAT SINCE THE US SIDE INSISTED ON DISCUSSING CENTRAL SYSTEMS FIRST HE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHEN OTHER SYSTEMS WOULD BE DISCUSSED.

4. GEN. BELETSKY (TO FITZGERALD, A-153) SAID US SIDE CONTINUED TO ADHERE TO ITS FORMER POSITION AND HAS SHOWN NO SIGNS OF FORWARD MOVEMENT. THE SOVIET SIDE, ON THE OTHER HAND, HAD ALREADY CONTRIBUTED SOME FORWARD MOVEMENT AND IS PREPARED FOR MORE. HE SUGGESTED THAT PROGRESS WOULD BE GREATER IF THE US DELEGATION WERE TO MAKE SOME COPARABLE MOVEMENT FROM ITS " OLD" POSITION.

5. GEN. TRUSOV, IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION WITH FITZGERALD SAID SOVIET DELEGATION HAS ALL THE INSTRUCTIONS IT REQUIRES FOR PROGRESS AT THE PRESENT TIME AND IS IN THE PROCESS OF PRESENTING ITS VIEWS IN A WAY THAT WILL GIVE THE US SIDE A COMPLETE PICTURE OF ITS PROPOSALS.

6. BOMBERS AND BOMBER ARMAMENTS: SHCHUKIN (TO NITZE, A-154) SUGGESTED THAT SOVIET PROPOSAL TO BAN NUCLEAR WEAPONS ON BOMBERS WAS LINKED TO US PROPOSAL TO TIE DISCUSSION OF BOMBER ARMAMENTS TO DISCUSSION OF AIR DEFENSES.

7. TRUSOV (TO ROWNY, A-157) SIAD THERE WAS NO CONTRADICTION IN CONSIDERING STRATEGIC BOMBERS AS PART OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS AND IN PROPOSING THE PROHIBITION OF THEIR USE AS DELIVERY SYSTEMS FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS. ROWNY SAID PROPOSAL ANALOGOUS TO AGREEING TO PERMIT ICBMS WHILE PROPOSING THAT NUCLEAR WARHEADS ON THEM BE PROHIBITED.

8. TRUSOV CLAIMED TO NOTICE SOMETHING NEW IN AMBASSADOR JOHNSON' S PRELIMINARY COMMENTS ON THE SOVIET PROPOSAL QUOTING, JOHN-
SON AS HAVING SAID WE MUST ADDRESS THE PROBLEM OF LIMITATIONS ON AIR DEFENSE SYSTEMS. ROWNY SAID THIS WAS NOT NEW AS GENERAL ALLISON HAD MENTIONED THE POINT IN DECEMBER 1972. HE CLARIFIED AMBASSADOR JOHNSON' S STATEMENT THAT IT WAS IF THE SOVIET SIDE INSISTED ON BRINGING IN THE COMPLEX QUESTION OF BOMBERS ARMAMENTS, THAT THIS WOULD REQUIRE DISCUSSION OF CORRESPONDING DEFENSES.

9. FITZGERALD ASKED GEN. BELETSKIY (A-153) SIGNIFICANCE OF FACT THAT SOVIETS PROPOSALS ON BOMBERS TODAY DID NOT INCLUDE ALL FOUR
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ELEMENTS OF THEIR DECEMBER 1, 1972 PROPOSAL. SPECIFICALLY, THEY
HAD NOT REAFFIRMED THEIR EARLIER PROPOSAL FOR A BAN ON THE
DEVELOPMENT, TESTING AND DEPLOYMENT OF NEW TYPES OF BOMBERS.
BELETSKY AVOIDED A DIRECT ANSWER, BUT DID SAY A CAREFUL
READING WOULD SUGGEST A CONCERN WITH FUTURE BOMBERS.

10. CENTRAL/ NON-CENTRAL SYSTEMS IMPASSE: GRINEVS
E E E E E E E

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS
*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: X1
Errors: CORE6
Film Number: n/a
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